

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, Reverend Boston Smith, the Supervisor of Baptist Missionaries in Minnesota during the 1890's, had an inspired dream of creating a church on rails to minister to the spiritual needs of those people living in the rural and remote areas of America; and,

WHEREAS, Through a unique partnership among churches, individuals, and businesses, seven chapel cars were built during the late 19th and early 20th centuries: Evangel, Emmanuel, Glad Tidings, Good Will, Messenger of Peace, Herald of Hope, and Grace; and,

WHEREAS, Each chapel car was replete with living quarters for the missionary (or "colporter") and a chapel area furnished with hardwood pews, a lecturn, and an organ; and,

WHEREAS, As they travelled the length and breadth of our country, representing the American Baptist Church and engendering a truly ecumenical enthusiasm, the chapel cars heralded one of the most colorful and effective methods of evangelism in the history of American religious growth; and,

WHEREAS, Emmanuel, which is now displayed at a permanent site in the Prairie Village Museum town near Madison, South Dakota, is the oldest remaining 19th Century American Baptist chapel car; and,

WHEREAS, Chapel car Emmanuel's exterior has now been completely restored as a result of generous support by churches and individuals of all denominations; and,

WHEREAS, May 22, 1983, marks the 90th anniversary of the creation of Chapel Car Emmanuel, and it also begins the fundraising drive for the faithful restoration of the interior of this National Historic Site:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim Sunday, May 22, 1983, as

CHAPEL CAR EMMANUEL DAY

In South Dakota, and I join South Dakotans of all religious persuasions in saluting this enduring landmark of stalwart faith and steadfast works.



ATTEST:

Alice Kundert
ALICE KUNDERT, SECRETARY OF STATE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Third Day of February, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Three

William J. Janklow
WILLIAM J. JANKLOW, GOVERNOR

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA - BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATION - OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT - CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY
THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE MICROPHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGE APPEARING ON THIS SLIDE OF MICROFILM IS AN ACCURATE REPRODUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL RECORD AND WAS MICROFILMED IN THE REGULAR COURSE OF BUSINESS ACCORDING TO THE PROVISIONS OF SOUTH DAKOTA COMPILED LAW 1-27-4. IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED THAT THE PHOTOGRAPHIC PROCESS USED FOR MICROFILMING OF THE ABOVE RECORDS WAS IN A MANNER AND ON MICROFILM WHICH MEET THE RECOMMENDED REQUIREMENTS OF THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS FOR PERMANENT MICROPHOTOGRAPHIC REPRODUCTIONS.
REDUCTION 25 ROLL NO. 3 DATE MICROFILMED 2-7-84
CAMERA OPERATOR *[Signature]*